



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Chad

FANT Destroys 'Libyan Islamic Legion' Column

AB2004155990 Paris AFP in French 1148 GMT
20 Apr 90

[Text] Paris, 20 Apr (AFP)—The "Libyan Islamic Legion" column, intercepted on Wednesday [18 April] and, according to Ndjamen, "destroyed totally" by Chadian government forces, came from the Koufra region [Libya]. This was disclosed today by a source close to the Chadian Embassy in Paris.

According to the same source, it was not specified whether the fighting took place on Chadian or Sudanese territory. In the past, observers recall, the "interception" operations by the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) always took place in Sudan's Darfur Province, and sometimes more than 200 km inside it.

According to this source, the column, which suffered losses put officially by Ndjamen at 517 killed and 208 taken prisoner, was part of a new contingent of 3,000 men sent to Darfur to reinforce some 2,500 soldiers who at the end of March attacked the Chadian garrisons in Bahai and Tine on the Chad-Sudan border.

According to Ndjamen, these soldiers were pursued at the beginning of April by the FANT, and suffered losses estimated at 1,060 killed and 208 taken prisoner.

This same source close to the Chadian Embassy also stated that Tripoli has reinforced its military presence in the Aozou Strip at the Chad-Libya common border by "sending in Palestinian mercenaries belonging to the Abu Nidal faction in order to train the Islamic Legion contingent that has been placed at the disposal of the Chadian opposition."

The Chadian armed opposition, assembled in Darfur under the leadership of former dissident chief Idriss Deby, has always asserted that it is operating on its own, and that it is not the Islamic Legion that is fighting against President Hissein Habre's troops. Libya has denied any involvement in the fighting and denounced "Chad's media and political campaign" against it.

103 Legion Troops Killed

AB2104154890 Paris AFP in French 1504 GMT
21 Apr 90

[Text] Ndjamen, 21 Apr (AFP)—The Chadian Army High Command today announced that it has killed 103 troops of the pro-Libyan Islamic Legion and took 45 others prisoners following clashes that took place yesterday at an unnamed locality.

According to the High Command's communique, which was broadcast outside the regular newscast times of Radio Chad, the Chadian National Armed Forces yesterday "intercepted a column arriving from Koufra" (Libya).

The communique gave a detailed account of equipment and weapons seized from the "enemy" or destroyed during the clashes. They include, in particular, all-purpose vehicles mounted with rocket launchers, 14.5-MM heavy machineguns, and various guns. "The frequency and the ferocity of the fighting clearly demonstrates the desperateness and the total madness of Tripoli's expansionist regime," the communique concluded.

Last Wednesday, Ndjamen had reported that a column of the "Libyan Islamic Legion" had been "intercepted at the far end of the border between Chad and Sudan" and that it was completely destroyed by Chadian government forces, with 517 troops killed and 208 prisoners taken among the enemy forces. A source close to the Chadian Embassy in Paris indicated yesterday that the column had come from the Koufra region in Libya.

The Chadian armed opposition, which has regrouped in Sudan's Darfur Province around the dissident Idriss Deby, has always stated that its forces and not those of the Islamic Legion have been fighting against the troops of President Hissein Habre. For its part, Libya has denied any participation in the fighting.

FANT Issues Communique

AB2104203090 Ndjamen Domestic Service in French
1900 21 Apr 90

["Communique No. 5 of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) High Command" issued in Ndjamen on 21 April]

[Text] Following the total destruction of an enemy column on Wednesday, 18 April 1990 along the Chad-Sudan border and in pursuing their reconnaissance operations, the FANT on Friday, 20 April 1990 intercepted another column of the Islamic Legion arriving right from Koufra in Libya. The fierce and relentless fighting that ensued resulted in the following provisional outcome:

On the side of the mercenaries of the Islamic Legion: 103 dead; 45 prisoners captured.

Equipment seized from the enemy: Three Toyota vehicles mounted with ground-to-ground 107 MM-multiple rocket launchers, four Toyota vehicles mounted with 12.7 MM-guns, 15 Toyota vehicles mounted with 14.5-MM Bitube anti-aircraft defense systems, five Toyota troop transport vehicles, one Milan firing (?station), three heavy-duty trucks loaded with ammunitions.

Number of individual weapons—enemy equipment destroyed: seven jeeps mounted with 106-MM guns, nine Toyota vehicles mounted with 14.5-MM Bitubes, five Toyota vehicles mounted with SPG-9 weapons, seven Toyota vehicles mounted with ground-to-ground 107-MM Bitube multiple rocket launchers.

The frequency and the ferocity of the fighting clearly demonstrates the desperateness and total madness of Tripoli's expansionist regime in its desperate activities

of destruction and annexation against Chad. Once again, the mercenary hordes of the Islamic Legion have come to sap their energies and to get themselves torn into shreds in the face of the strong, unshakeable, and irresistible determination of the glorious FANT.

Gabon

Bongo Views Transition to Multiparty System

AB2004170490 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1230 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Excerpts] The national conference on the political future of Gabon ended yesterday evening in Libreville. The official ceremony was presided over by Gabonese Head of State Omar Bongo, who announced the establishment of a multiparty system in Gabon. But the bureau of the national conference said it was a protocol closing session, because all has not completely ended here in Libreville. For example, there is a need to put finishing touches to some texts before they can be adopted at a plenary assembly. Well, Jean-Claude Sanguenome, you are just back from the 12 March Village, where the Libreville International Conferences hall is hosting this national conference. It seemed that yesterday, there were some problems and that the plenary assembly has not yet started:

[Sanguenome] That is true, there were some problems at the closing session yesterday, particularly in the absence of the leaders of some opposition movements, notably the leaders of the united front of opposition associations and parties. They were demanding not only that the plenary session be held after the closing session, which you will agree would be proper, but also that a general debate be held on all the work done by all the commissions and subcommissions in order to analyze their work and appreciate deeply their nature and their quality.

They also wanted an appointment with the president of the republic in order to receive from him an assurance that a new cabinet will be appointed after the conference. The leaders wanted a cabinet composed of new people, men and women of integrity and efficiency and who have the general interest at heart. Still according to them, this cabinet is expected to be composed of between 15 to 20 members, a reduction [words indistinct] and I quote them: The grouping of ministerial departments for more efficiency in order to reduce costs. [Words indistinct], we already know that President Omar Bongo yesterday

announced the formation in the coming months of a cabinet of solidarity, openness, and national union. [passage omitted]

Since yesterday, Gabon has been living in the era of a multiparty system as opposed to the hitherto single-party system. Gabon, according to President Omar Bongo, is today among the very first countries of black Africa to have adopted a new era of pluralist democracy. Let us listen to Omar Bongo:

[Begin Bongo recording] The just-ended conference is a milestone in the history of our country and announces the advent of a new era. The transition [words indistinct] represents the most [word indistinct] period we are going to pass through in order to ensure the transition from the single-party system to the multiparty system in the exercise of our democratic system. Indeed, for 22 years [words indistinct] as in diversity of interests of our regions, our people remained united, thanks to the single party system, which until now has been the irreplaceable platform for national unity. During this period, while other countries were being torn apart and were facing tragedies, Gabon witnessed an era of social peace and remarkable stability. National unity, political stability, social peace, and development have been the achievements of the Gabonese Democratic Party. No honest person can contest these achievements. [end recording]

A multiparty system must make everyone think. According to the Gabonese leader Omar Bongo, there is a need to be careful so as to avoid anarchy:

[Begin Bongo recording] More than ever before, it is important that in the rigorous implementation of legality, we avoid risking anarchy, which can compromise any pluralistic system. We must also admit that democracy, within the framework of a multiparty system, may not be a good thing in itself [words indistinct] in favor of unity and the general interest. This is why we must play the game without any animosity, without rancor, and without any thought for revenge.

Your conference and your willingness to achieve a consensus have been a great lesson. Your meeting also identified the enormous potentialities of our country; but also, to our great disappointment, the meeting identified the limits of centralized management of the national patrimony. Let us take note of this and let us ensure that those pointing accusing fingers today are not those to be accused tomorrow. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Ethiopia

Government, Eritrean Groups Conclude Sanaa Talks

JN2204135990 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Excerpts] The session of preliminary talks between a delegation representing the Ethiopian Government and another representing the factions of the Eritrean Liberation Front, which was held 1-21 April under the chairmanship of Brother Ahmad Muhammad al-Iryani, head of the Central Organization for Audit and Control, was concluded at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Brother al-Iryani delivered a speech at the beginning of the session in which he expressed the satisfaction of Yemen—leadership, government, and people—with the good results of this meeting. [passage omitted]

Shewandagn Belete, head of the Ethiopian delegation, expressed satisfaction with the results of these talks which, he said, demonstrated both parties' desire to achieve peace. He also said efforts have to be made to render success to this good start.

A final communique was signed during this session. The communique states that an agreement has been reached on a number of steps related to preparing for the substantial [jawhariyah] negotiations, which—it has been decided—will be held five months after the announcement of this communique. Preliminary talks will be resumed three months before these substantial negotiations with the participation of other parties, the communique adds.

The communique also states both parties' desire to convene the substantial negotiations under the auspices of the Yemen Arab Republic in its capital, Sanaa, in which the secretariat for the substantial talks will be based.

In the final communique, both parties expressed their appreciation for the Yemen Arab republic, particularly for leader President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih for his efforts and patronage of the preliminary talks, which helped render success to this meeting.

Shewandagn Belete, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and head of the Ethiopian delegation to the preliminary talks between Ethiopia and factions of the Eritrean Liberation Front, left Sanaa this morning. In a statement to SABA he said the results of the talks were positive, good, and different from all those achieved in previous talks. He asserted that the results will help both parties in the future to proceed forward to achieve peace in Eritrea. He pointed out that the Sanaa meetings have provided the suitable atmosphere to create confidence and understanding among the two parties.

The Ethiopian official said the talks have touched on six major issues related to means to achieve peace. He

explained that the next round of talks will be held in Sanaa within the next five months. He praised the efforts made by our country on all levels to prepare for the talks, chair the meetings, and bring the viewpoints closer.

He was seen off by brother (?Dirhim) Nu'man, member of the General Committee, and the Ethiopian ambassador in Sanaa.

'Successfully Completed'

EA2204193890 Addis Ababa in Amharic
to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Comrade Shewandagn Belete has stated that the preliminary talks between the Ethiopian Government and the Jubha [Eritrean Liberation Front, ELF] factions' delegations in Sanaa, Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], have been successfully completed. Comrade Shewandagn Belete, alternate Political Bureau member and secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, stated this upon arrival in Addis Ababa following completion of the Sanaa talks, in which he was the leader of the Ethiopian delegation.

Comrade Shewandagn went on to say that the preliminary talks had resolved procedural matters and, as a result, enabled the talks to proceed to the substantive stage. Indicating that the meeting had been conducted in an atmosphere of political understanding, where each party expressed its desire and stance to resolve peacefully the problem of autonomous Eritrea, he said both parties were willing to initiate a solution jointly.

The two parties issued a joint communique yesterday on the main issues agreed upon. Based on the current agreement, they have agreed to hold the substantive talks in not more than five months' time. Comrade Shewandagn further stated that both parties believe that in order to achieve lasting peace in Eritrea, other opposition groups or factions should participate in the talks. This is in line with the repeated resolutions of the National Shengo and the resolution of the WPE Central Committee's 11th ordinary session, he added.

Comrade Shewandagn said that the YAR government and people, especially the country's leader, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, had made a great effort during the past year to bring the Jubha factions to a common position. He went on to say that President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, in his desire for the meeting's success, besides playing a special role himself, had also assigned his deputy prime minister and foreign minister to be chairman. Since the deputy prime minister managed to create a conducive atmosphere and understood the issues to be resolved beforehand, a successful outcome was achieved.

Before the talks opened, the delegation presented comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam's message to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

President Mengistu Returns Home From Zimbabwe*EA2004092790 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 19 Apr 90*

[Excerpts] Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam has arrived in Addis Ababa after attending celebrations marking Zimbabwe's 10th anniversary of independence. ENA [Ethiopian News Agency] palace reporter, Asefa Seyoum sent us a telephone report:

[Begin Asefa recording] During his stay in Harare, Zimbabwe, Comrade President Haile Mariam attended various ceremonies marking the country's 10th anniversary of independence and also exchanged views with leaders who attended the ceremonies. Among those who exchanged views with Comrade President Mengistu were Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe, leader of Zimbabwe; Comrade Kenneth Kaunda, leader of Zambia; President Daniel Arap Moi, leader of the Republic of Kenya; and President Alberto Chissano, leader of the Republic of Mozambique.

The discussions Comrade President Mengistu held with the leaders centered on the relations and friendship between Ethiopia and the respective countries and on current continental and international issues. Comrade President Mengistu also exchanged views with the leaders on the recent political, economic, and social policy steps taken by our country and efforts being made to bring about peace in the country. In their speeches the leaders said they appreciate all the efforts Ethiopia has taken for development, and to bring about peace in the country in particular, and noted that the steps are commendable.

On arrival in Addis Ababa this afternoon, Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam was welcomed by Comrade Fiseha Desta, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and vice president, and other party and senior government officials. Present with the comrade president during the celebrations in Zimbabwe and during his talks with the leaders was Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPE Central Committee, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. [passage omitted].

Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe was at Harare International Airport with senior government officials when Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam left Harare this afternoon.

Pilots Defect; Falasha Deal With Israel Described*JN2204154590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1235 GMT
22 Apr 90*

[Text] Doha, 22 Apr (WAKH)—An Eritrean official has disclosed that four Ethiopian pilots have recently defected to two countries neighboring Ethiopia along with their planes, which belong to the Ethiopian Air

Force and which were carrying internationally banned cluster bombs that were supplied by Israel, in addition to three other planes, two of which took refuge in Sanaa and the third landed in positions held by the Eritrean revolutionaries in Massaua.

Muhammad Osman Abu-Bakr, Executive Committee member and head of the foreign relations bureau in the Eritrean Liberation Front, said that the defection of the Ethiopian pilots with their seven planes is due to the current rebellion in the Ethiopian Air Force in protest against the use of the destructive cluster bombs to annihilate the Eritrean people, as well as to the pilot's rejection of the continuation of the Eritrean-Ethiopian war.

The Eritrean official, which is currently visiting Doha to brief officials on developments in the Eritrean issue, said that a high-ranking Israeli military delegation is visiting Ethiopia to train the Ethiopian military on the new weapons that Israel has granted to Ethiopia, including a battalion of the Soviet T-55 tanks and Israeli-manufactured Kfir planes, and to supervise the establishment of a line to assemble Israeli-made Galilee rifles in the Debre Zeyit area outside the Ethiopian capital.

The Eritrean official also said that the visit by the Israeli military delegation as well as the Israeli military aid are part of the implementation of the military cooperation protocol, which was signed recently by the two sides, and under which Israel will obtain military facilities in the Sork mountains, Ras Shakis, Smuti [names as received], and Hanish areas on the Red Sea. Under the protocol, Ethiopia will also transport 10,000 Falasha Jews to Israel.

EPLF Claims Ginda Front Offensive Repulsed*2004164090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses
of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 20 Apr 90*

[Excerpt] The Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] People's Army yesterday repulsed the desperate and [word indistinct] offensive of the enemy launched on the Ginda front and inflicted heavy losses on it.

The enemy, in the offensive it launched through (Riesi Adi) and northern (?Baheri) at 0300 yesterday, 19 April, tried to force its demoralized and weak army to fight. However, the enemy's army is staggering since [words indistinct] to our people's army.

Although we have not yet received the details of the losses suffered by the enemy, it has been learned that the enemy suffered heavy losses in yesterday's suicidal offensive. [passage omitted]

EPRDF Reports 150 Government Dead in Offensive

AB2204214790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The heroic army of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] has continued its activities aimed at raising the flag of peace, democracy, and freedom over the whole of Ethiopia, by smashing the false propaganda of the rightists and vacillators.

In that respect, in an offensive, the EPRDF inflicted heavy losses on the 502d and 1st enemy brigades, which had moved in the direction of (?Zamiro) on 20 April.

In the fighting, 150 enemy soldiers were killed, 190 wounded, and 24 others captured. Moreover, 62 automatic guns, one NATO [as heard], one (Kalashin Bren), many thousands of rounds of ammunition, and other ammunition for heavy caliber weapons became the property of the EPRDF. [passage omitted]

Rebels: 50 Killed in Dergue Air Raid on Mitsiwa

EA2304094090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 23 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The Dergue government perpetrated a savage air raid on Mitsiwa for the fifth time yesterday, killing 50 innocent civilians and seriously wounding 110 others and destroying 50 houses. Inasmuch as most of the wounded are in a very bad condition, the death toll will probably rise.

Yesterday's savage air raid came in two waves, at 1015 and 1815 respectively. The morning air raid was aimed at the town center and the afternoon one at the square opposite the Aida cinema, which links (Migrar), (Chiwalet) the market and (Aziz) road and eastern [words indistinct], using cluster bombs, which have been condemned by the world.

Present during the raids were two journalists representing ASSOCIATED PRESS and a London-based magazine. They described the air raid on innocent civilians as horrible and appalling. [passage omitted]

Mandela Addresses Rally in Umtata 22 Apr**Says ANC Respects Chiefs**

*MB2204204490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2040 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 22 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Nelson Mandela said it was unfortunate there had been a great deal of confusion regarding the position of the ANC in relation to chiefs.

"The ANC has always respected the chiefs as our traditional leaders, as an important part of our community, some of whom have played an continued to play a crucial role in the freedom struggle," he told a rally in Umtata on Sunday.

He paid special tribute to Paramount Chief Sabata Dalindyebo, who had lived in exile for many years and had been given a commoner's burial.

He praised the people for giving Paramount Chief Sabata a fitting funeral last year.

Mr Mandela said chiefs also needed to respect the views of their subjects and those chiefs and leaders who worked against the aspirations of the people would not be protected by the leaders and organisations of the people.

Comments on Violence

*MB2204142290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1413 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Text] Johannesburg April 22 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] would continue the armed struggle as long as the South African Government continued to conduct a war against unarmed and defenceless black civilians, the ANC Deputy President, Nelson Mandela, said at a rally in Umtata on Sunday.

He said the main reason that compelled the ANC to form its armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, had been the use of brutal force against people which was a still a reality today.

If an atmosphere of peace was to be created then the government had to control its security forces.

"We refuse to be intimidated into inactivity by this phenomenon of police violence.

"We must continue to intensify our mass struggles in a disciplined way to ensure that the gains we have made so far are not reversed and the government does not back-track from the unfolding process of negotiation."

He said there could be no talk of a lasting peace while government agents continued to massacre people as had happened at Sebokeng, Viljoenskroon and in Natal.

Discusses July Talks With Thatcher

*MB2204124090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1226 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 22 SAPA—Deputy President of the ANC [African National Congress] Mr Nelson Mandela would raise the question of sanctions with British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher when he meets her on July 6 this year.

Addressing a rally in Umtata, he said the ANC was upset that Mrs Thatcher had unilaterally decided to ease sanctions on South Africa and he would raise the matter with her at their meeting in July.

Treurnicht, Right Wing Belong to Past

*MB2204133590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1330 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 22 SAPA—Conservative Party leader Dr Andries Treurnicht and other right wingers belonged to the past and in the future South Africa there would be no room for people who advocated racism and racial war, the deputy president of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr Nelson Mandela, said on Sunday.

Addressing a rally in Umtata, he said it was unfortunate at this delicate stage of the country's history that backward elements were still trying to gather support for their racist views by exploiting the unfounded fears of a section of the white population.

"We reject this. These policies of apartheid have caused too much suffering to our people. In the South Africa we envisaged and are busy building, there will be no place for racial practices."

It had to be made clear to Dr Treurnicht that he and other right wingers belonged to the past, not to the present nor the future.

He called on white South Africans to reject "these evil attempts" to polarise South Africans and invited them to join the ANC.

Mr Mandela said he also condemned the desecration of a cemetery of the Jewish community in Pretoria and gave the assurance that the ANC was not responsible.

"The policies of the ANC are fundamentally anti-racist and are opposed to anti-semitism."

Therefore there was no way any member or supporter of the ANC could have been responsible for the criminal act.

On Continuation of Armed Struggle

*MB2204123790 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1225 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 22 SAPA—The armed struggle would continue until the minimum demands of the

Harare Declaration had been met by the South African Government, the deputy president of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr Nelson Mandela, told a rally in Umtata on Sunday.

Addressing about 50,000 people, he said the ANC had been called upon to abandon the armed struggle but it would not discard any of its methods or strategies until the right climate for negotiation had been created.

He said negotiations did not result from peace, but rather peace resulted from negotiations.

No organisation could compare with the ANC in its total commitment, but there could be no talk of peace while the SA Police continued to massacre people such as they had in Sebokeng, Viljoenskroon and in Natal.

The use of force against unarmed and defenceless people was continuing in South Africa exactly as it had in 1961.

The government had to control the security forces before there could be any talk about the ANC abandoning its strategy.

"We refuse to be intimidated by police violence. The armed struggle must be intensified, but in a disciplined way to ensure that the government does not backtrack from the path of negotiation."

Mandela Says Tambo Might Not Fully Recover

MB2104202090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2021 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Umtata April 21 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] President Mr Oliver Tambo might never recover fully from the illness which has confined him to a clinic in Stockholm, Sweden, ANC Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela said in Umtata on Saturday.

Mr Mandela told a function in the presidential palace in Umtata that on his recent visit to Sweden, Mr Tambo had told him he wished it to be conveyed to people in SA that he might not recover fully from the stroke he suffered about two years ago.

Mr Mandela paid tribute to Mr Tambo. He said as leader of the ANC he had held it together for 30 years, despite it being exiled from SA during that time.

"He has made a good recovery and we all hope that by some miracle it will be complete," Mr Mandela said.

However, Mr Tambo had said he wished it to be known that it was possible he might never fully recover.

Mandela, De Klerk Discuss Rammolodsi Shootings

MB2104200390 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1959 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Umtata April 21 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela has

been in contact with President F.W. de Klerk about the recent shootings in Rammolodsi township near Viljoenskroon in the OFS [Orange Free State] and alleged vigilante attacks on ANC supporters in the eastern Transvaal.

Mr Mandela said at a function held in his honour at the presidential palace in Umtata he had a good understanding with President de Klerk, and had received an assurance the matters would be investigated.

Mr Mandela said he had heard of the fatal shooting of five people by police soon after his return from Harare. He had also heard of attacks on "Our people" by Portuguese and Zulu speaking vigilantes in the Bushbuckridge area in the eastern Transvaal.

He said he had contacted Mr de Klerk about the incident. "I have contacted him when I am not satisfied about something, and in the past always received a positive response."

Mr Mandela said Mr de Klerk had promised he would look into the matter and had expressed his concern about the incident.

Referring to the forthcoming talks between government and the ANC, Mr Mandela said they were not going to be easy but he hoped they would have fruitful results.

He would probably contact Mr de Klerk before the talks—scheduled for May 2—to ensure they were successful.

What was certain was that the ANC was not going back to a position of weakness. "We are negotiating from a position of strength."

It was not the government which had initiated the talks. "The initiative came from us. We have been asking the government to talk for the past three years, and at last they are going to have to look into the face of the ANC."

Mandela Urges Miners To Protest Apartheid

MB2204084390 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 22 Apr 90 p 2

[By Sefako Nyaka]

[Text] ANC [African National Congress] Vice President Nelson Mandela yesterday called on mineworkers to intensify their struggle against racism on the mines.

At the National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) central committee meeting in Johannesburg, where he was presented with his membership card and life honorary presidency of the union, Mr Mandela said although the De Klerk government had slightly moved away from grand apartheid, discrimination was still being practised openly on the mines.

"I understand that on the mines black recruits are still being ordered to strip naked, while the same does not

apply to white recruits," said Mr Mandela, who worked as a security guard at Crown Mines in 1941.

He said that while in other countries mine workers were among the highest paid, black workers in South Africa were among the lowest paid, earning little more than farm-workers who were on the bottom rung of the wage scale.

"You are not allowed to have visitors and are also prevented from visiting your friends on other mines. You are also not allowed to demonstrate against these things," Mr Mandela said.

He said there was an urgent need for the ANC and COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] to come together to discuss ways of ending discrimination and the exploitation of workers.

"The future government must be a government of the workers so that they too can enjoy the riches from the mines."

Mandela Arrives in Transkei; Welcomed by Crowd

*MB2104150790 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1457 GMT 21 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 21 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela arrived at Umtata airport late Saturday [21 April] afternoon to a tumultuous welcome from a large crowd of supporters in the ANC's black, green and gold colours.

Mr Mandela immediately travelled to the Transkei capital's main stadium, where he is scheduled to address a large rally.

He was born in the Transkei in 1918. This is his first visit to the "homeland" and birthplace since his release from prison in February.

Addresses Crowd

*MB2104163390 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1629 GMT 21 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 21 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela arrived back in the Transkei on Saturday [21 April] after an absence of more than 30 years and told a crowd of several thousand people "I'm very happy to be home."

Mr Mandela, his wife Winnie, ANC internal head Mr Walter Sisulu and his wife Albertina arrived at the K.D. Matanzima Airport on Saturday afternoon.

They were met by the head of the Transkei Military Council, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, and other members of the council.

A red carpet was rolled out on the runway for Mr Mandela, and he was handed a spear and a knobkierie.

A buckskin symbolising paramount chieftancy was placed around his shoulders.

Addressing the crowd which gathered outside the airport, he said he was happy to be returning to the place where he had spent most of his youth.

He said he had fond memories of hunting animals and swimming in rivers in the area.

He told the crowd, which included several hundred uniformed ANC marshals, he would give them a more detailed message about his plans for democracy when he addressed a rally in the capital on Sunday.

Mr Mandela left the airport for the presidential guest house in Umtata, where he will spend the night before addressing the rally.

Meets With Officials

*MB2304084790 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0844 GMT 23 Apr 90*

[Text] Umtata April 23 SAPA—An ANC [African National Congress] delegation led by Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela is holding talks with Transkei Government officials in Umtata on Monday.

Mr Mandela, accompanied by Mr Walter Sisulu and Mr Govan Mbeki, arrived at the presidential palace in Umtata on Monday morning for a meeting with the chairman of the military council, Major-General Bantu Holomisa and members of his government.

Mr Mandela, who is visiting Transkei, his birthplace, for the first time in 30 years, will hold a meeting later today with chiefs and paramount chiefs from the area.

Mr Mandela paid an informal visit to the town in which he was born, Qunu, on Sunday [22 Apr], but will visit the town again on Thursday to take part in traditional ceremonies.

General Holomisa said before the meeting on Monday that a statement might be released after the talks.

Transkei Leader Urges Mandela Rally Attendance

*MB2004155790 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1553 GMT 20 Apr 90*

[Text] Johannesburg April 20 SAPA—To many Transkeians the ANC [African National Congress] rally in Umtata on Sunday in honour of Nelson Mandela would be an event of unparalleled historical importance in the political history of the territory, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, chairman of the Military Council said Friday.

Gen Holomisa in a statement urged people to attend the rally.

"Transkeians have every right to reminisce about the role the sons and daughters of this area are playing in the liberation struggle of the black masses of South Africa," he said.

"The endurance and greatness of spirit of Dr Mandela and other ANC leaders must strengthen the resolve of the people to rid themselves of the shackles of the system and whet their admirable efforts to create a new, non-racial, democratic South Africa with a living space for every South African.

"Let everyone take a leaf out of their relentless energy and unflinching determination to achieve the ultimate objective and direct one's anger into a crusade for expediting the dawn of the long-awaited new South Africa.

"Let all people redouble their efforts to fortify the wall of resistance already erected by these heroes so that their initiative can quickly bear fruit for benefit of all," Maj-Gen Holomisa said.

"Let him and his colleagues be warmly welcomed and accorded the respect due to them because they represent the correctness of the cause and the inevitability of the triumph of reason over sheer political insanity and sentimentalism.

"Their unshakable belief in the equality of men and their resultant long-term incarceration has not bred bitterness and vengeance against the perpetrators of the despicable acts. Instead they are livid with pragmatism and do not refuse to face the harsh realities and hard facts of the political situation prevailing in South Africa."

Maj-Gen Holomisa said foreign dignitaries and other people from outside Transkei were welcome to attend the rally.

Security arrangements had been made from Saturday, he said, adding it was considered advisable for shops to close in the afternoon in anticipation of heavy traffic. ANC marshalls would be visible "everywhere in town and the suburbs".

Mandela To Decide on Egypt's May Invitation

*MB2104131090 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 21 Apr 90*

[Text] Nelson Mandela has been invited to visit Cairo next month.

An Egyptian cabinet minister says Prime Minister Husni Mubarak has extended the invitation to the deputy ANC [African National Congress] president to visit the country on 19 May.

It is not known if Mandela has accepted the invitation.

TV Cites de Klerk's 17 Apr Parliament Address

MB2104085590 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpts] The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has described as devoid of all credibility a document the Conservative Party [CP] claims contains an ANC [African National Congress] threat to right-wingers.

The president accused the CP of playing a dangerous game by releasing an unevaluated secret document. In doing so, he said, the CP could have endangered people's lives. Our political correspondent, Clarence Keyter, reports from parliament:

[Keyter] Before dealing with the obstacles to a negotiation and his view to a new South Africa, the state president firmly dealt with the CP's claim that the ANC was planning attacks on right wing leaders and that the government had neglected to act.

The state president said the leader of the opposition had made a secret, unevaluated document available to the media. This document, the state president said, had been one of thousands being received daily containing rumors, disinformation, allegations, and hard information.

The particular document and its source, however, had been proven not to be credible. Mr. de Klerk said the CP would have obtained all the relevant information by confidential inquiry.

The state president said by supplying the media with the document, which had been marked secret, the CP had probably broken the law.

The state president added that, had the report been that of a well placed source, the Conservative Party could have endangered the lives of people. He said the CP was playing with fire.

[Begin de Klerk recording, in Afrikaans] Sir, the actual aim of the Conservative Party is to create a false image of a National Party that suddenly allows itself to be prescribed to by the ANC. Nothing, nothing sir, is further removed from the truth. But, sir, hopefully something good will come out of this whole episode, namely that the voters will become aware of the reprehensibility and unreliability of CP propaganda and strategy; also, sir, that the parliament and the inhabitants of our country can be sure that the government will not make decisions on the basis of unconfirmed rumors.

Sir, the instructions to security forces are clear and unambiguous: to protect the lives and property of all in South Africa, irrespective of who the person is.

The CP, Mr. Speaker, is playing a dangerous game by trying to undermine the impartiality and the ability of the security forces. Add to this the far right wing groups' subtle, and sometimes less subtle, contribution to a psychosis of violence, and an ominous picture comes to the fore. The CP is playing with fire and must think the matter over deeply and seriously. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Keyter] On negotiations, Mr. de Klerk made it clear there was no question of victories before negotiations; neither would it be tolerated that negotiations be abused for gaining time for secret, disruptive agendas.

[Begin de Klerk recording] Armed struggle and peaceful negotiation are conflicting concepts. The ANC's continued commitment to armed struggle, even if it were merely rhetorical, therefore constitutes a further obstacle alongside the reality of the violence which has to be removed.

In preliminary talks with the ANC, which have to be distinguished from constitutional negotiation, the government will strongly state this point of view. We insist on an unequivocal commitment to peaceful solutions which includes the cessation of violence and of preaching the armed struggle. [end recording]

[Keyter] Dealing with the scenarios of a new South Africa, the state president said neither majority rule nor partitioning offered a workable constitutional solution to South Africa. Admitting that the negotiations for a new constitution would be tough, the state president said anyone who thought the government would accept the dispensation in which the quality of existing freedom and values were abandoned was making a mistake.

The state president said power sharing was the only alternative for South Africa.

[Begin de Klerk recording] Everybody is talking about the new South Africa. Some are afraid about it, others arrogant. However, the majority are looking forward to it avidly, with hope and expectation.

One almost feels sorry for the snide; they are despairing in their fearful refusal to face the realities of South Africa. Like drowning men, they are clutching at the straws of oversimplified and unworkable cliches from the past. They are trying to hide their inability to adjust to reality behind forceful bravado and aggression. They are dangerous to the new South Africa and have to be opposed with vigor.

Those who arrogantly equate the concept of a new South Africa to a takeover of power, to those the message needs to be transmitted loudly and clearly: The new South Africa will belong to all its people. [passage omitted] [end recording]

De Klerk on Basic Changes for President's Office

MB2004111190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1058 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] Parliament April 20 SAPA—The office of state president would have to be fundamentally changed in the reform process, the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said on Friday.

Replying to his vote, Mr de Klerk said the present system allowed the office too much power.

In terms of the present office, if the state president were white there would be white domination; if he were black, there would be black domination; if he were Conservative Party [CP], there would be CP white domination.

"This will all have to be sorted out during discussions on the new constitution."

De Klerk Delays Opening NP, Courts Alliances

MB2204085790 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 22 Apr 90 p 2

[By John MacLennan]

[Excerpt] President de Klerk has, for the time being, ditched the idea of opening the party to all races.

Instead he went courting this week for alliances and was rewarded with immediate interest.

He might not be able to achieve binding alliances, but as long as he continues in his present direction he will have the support of all in Parliament, except the CP [Conservative Party], and the tacit backing of the main players outside it.

But a multiracial NP [National Party] is now a real possibility. In an important speech in Paarl, Cape leader Dr Dawie de Villiers said the NP did not want to open its membership at the moment because apartheid was an obstacle and the NP did not want to create competition for support with other leaders. In pledging himself to promote alliances, Mr de Klerk went to the extent of quoting former Prime Minister Malan. The quote, "Bring together those who from inner conviction belong together", is one which has often been used by DP [Democratic Party] co-leader Dr Zach de Beer.

Mr de Klerk also said the demands of alliance politics would make it necessary for traditional political opponents to refrain from the customary cut and thrust of politics when it came to matters on which there was agreement.

Dr de Beer, whose party has been applauding NP reform steps and urging President de Klerk onwards, said there was no question of any negotiation between the DP and the NP.

He added that the DP believed Mr de Klerk now had goals similar to the DP. "I don't think he wants to merge parties. I can't see what he will gain by it. As long as he maintains his present thrust and direction he can count on our votes. By merging with us he might frighten away some of the remaining right-wingers in his party."

He added: "We are determined to play a role in bringing about meaningful negotiations between the government and black leadership and we believe we can best play that role if we retain our identity."

"We are therefore perfectly prepared to work with President de Klerk and the Nats towards goals which we see as being in the national interest. We are certainly not looking for a merger or an alliance." [passage omitted]

Botha Comments on Future Government

*MB2104193890 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1800 GMT 21 Apr 90*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, says the government will not allow the country to be handed over to a socialist, communist government. Mr. Botha was addressing foreign visitors from 20 countries during a Cooper's International small stock and textile expo in Bloemfontein this afternoon. He reiterated the government's commitment to the scrapping of apartheid and discrimination.

[Begin Botha video recording] Now we can say to the world we will remove the inequities, we will remove the injustices. But once we have done so—and we are in the process of doing this—then we also want to rely on your understanding, then we also want to appeal to you, because this government will not hand over this country to a socialist, Marxist government. That you must also understand. We will extend freedom. We will bring a bill of rights based on fundamental human freedoms. But the party and government of which I am a member will insist on a market-orientated economic system, on freedom of religion, freedom of expression, regular elections, the right to own property, an independent judicial system. We will not be able to subscribe to a system that obtained in East Europe until recently. That we will not do, and we hope that as we remove apartheid, we hope that as we will remove racial discrimination, that we can count on our friends then, to support all South Africans—white South Africans, black South Africans, colored South Africans, Asian South Africans—to bring into being in this country a government based on freedom, a government with an open society, and not a government based on nationalization, not a government that will take away from the individual his right to compete in the economic system, not a government that would proclaim a one-party system, not a government that will forbid freedom of religion. [end video recording]

Minister Viljoen Visits With UK Prime Minister

*MB2004154290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1533 GMT 20 Apr 90*

[Text] London April 20 SAPA—British Premier Margaret Thatcher was brought up to date on the SA [South African] Government's preparations for negotiations with the ANC [African National Congress] and others on a new South Africa when Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen called on her at 10 Downing Street on Friday [20 April].

Dr Viljoen said after his 40-minute midday meeting with Mrs Thatcher it was not for him to disclose details of discussions with her, but said the talks had been "stimulating".

He also said he had brought the prime minister up to date on a number of issues she had requested details on.

Mrs Thatcher has in the last nine months received a string of South African leaders from various organisations in line with her policy of obtaining as wide a picture as possible of the situation in the country and the role Britain could play to assist in reaching a peaceful settlement.

Her standing invitation to African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela, has so far not been taken up by the organisation.

Dr Viljoen said details of State President F.W. de Klerk's visit next month to Mrs Thatcher as part of a European tour were not discussed.

No immediate comment on the meeting was available from Downing Street, where Mrs Thatcher's following engagement was on European Economic Community issues with Irish Premier Charles Haughey.

Dr Viljoen said he had been impressed by Mrs Thatcher's comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the situation in South Africa, and how she related circumstances to the region as a whole, the African-continent and world issues.

On behalf of the government, the minister had expressed appreciation to Mrs Thatcher for her positive attitude and response to recent reform steps taken in South Africa by Mr de Klerk.

Speaking generally of his trip abroad, which included a conference in Bermuda, and meeting U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and other top officials, Dr Viljoen said he had been struck by the widespread understanding and appreciation of the courageous initiatives undertaken recently by Mr de Klerk.

There was disagreement in some quarters on the details of actions taken by the government, but there was a "solid basic understanding of our problems and confidence in Mr de Klerk".

Briefs Thatcher on Recent Events

*MB2104071090 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 21 Apr 90*

[Text] Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen is quoted by a London newspaper as saying the National Party is considering alliances with nonwhite parties.

Viljoen told THE TIMES newspaper that Pretoria will reach agreement with black leaders on a new constitution within two years.

Viljoen met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday, briefing her on recent events in South Africa.

He also disclosed that the government has a hot line to ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Nelson Mandela. Viljoen said the line was between Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Mandela.

Returns from UK, U.S. Talks

MB2204170190 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] The minister of constitutional development, Dr. Gerrit Viljoen, arrived at D.F. Malan Airport in Cape Town today from London, after his overseas visit. Dr. Viljoen held talks with the American secretary of state, Mr. James Baker, during his visit to Washington. While in London he consulted with the British prime minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

Dr. Viljoen did not hold a news conference on his arrival at D.F. Malan airport. He said earlier he got the impression that the United States and Britain had wide recognition for President De Klerk's reform initiatives.

Government Envisages Dual Chamber Parliament

MB2204081590 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 22 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[By political correspondent David Breier]

[Text] The government envisages a new parliament with at least two chambers—one of which could be elected on a common voters' roll for all races while the other could be elected on a group basis.

Parliamentary sources disclosed that this was the key to President de Klerk's baffling speech this week in which he seemed to opt for differentiated voters' rolls and a common voters' roll in the same breath.

The government's thinking has recently shifted closer to the proposals of the Natal Indaba, MPs disclosed.

The Indaba envisaged two chambers—one elected on a common roll and the other by cultural groups with voters deciding for themselves which group they belonged to, including an open "South African" group.

Minister of Constitutional Development Gerrit Viljoen has mentioned the Indaba as an option although he believes it does not offer enough protection for minorities.

And the concept of people being able to define themselves as members of an open group has been proposed by the NP [National Party] for some time.

Mr de Klerk announced this week that the National Party would soon produce a comprehensive statement on principles which could serve as a basis for negotiations.

This is likely to give greater clarity to government thinking.

This week Mr de Klerk went so far as to compare the mechanisms to prevent domination with those proposed by the Democratic Party [DP].

He said these could include decentralisation of power, devolution of authority, constitutional checks and balances, decision-taking by consensus and an independent judiciary.

Mr de Klerk said that even the DP's proposals including cultural councils, would require "differentiated voters rolls".

"A common voters roll applied in a constitutional system based on the winner-takes-all approach, is not acceptable to the National Party. It does not provide for adequate protection of minorities, nor for the cultural, religious and language differences among South Africans.

"However, universal adult franchise on a common voters roll, within a qualified system of political representation into which the constitutional mechanisms are built, is indeed, an achievable possibility," he said.

Proposed Bill To Allow Cities To Integrate

MB2204091790 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 22 Apr 90 p 6

[By political correspondent David Breier]

[Text] The government is planning to replace the Group Areas Act and related laws with a new law enabling entire towns and cities to become fully integrated if they wish.

But municipalities choosing to remain segregated would be able to exercise that option, political sources said.

Whether the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, can sell this local option policy as "nondiscriminatory" and "generally acceptable" will be the deciding factor.

THE SUNDAY STAR learnt this week that officials had been asked to draw up a Bill that would enable local authorities to apply for complete integration—including common municipal voters rolls for all.

Should they choose to open, they would become completely open with none of the grey area patch-works and second-class management committees contained in the existing Free Settlement Areas Acts.

The existing laws including the Group Areas Act and its related Free Settlement Acts, envisage open areas as the exception rather than the rule.

But the new thinking is that fully integrated cities could become a norm under the proposed law.

It is not clear what the mechanism could be to open cities. It could involve a city council recommendation or possibly a poll.

This is the background to the announcement by Mr de Klerk that the government would scrap the Group Areas Act and replace it with something ensuring "a general

pattern of residential areas in a nondiscriminatory manner which will be generally acceptable".

He said the government was working hard at the planning and execution of this and trusted it would be able to produce firm proposals soon. A bill could be submitted to parliament next year.

However, opposition MPs are sceptical on how any law ensuring a pattern of residential areas could be nondiscriminatory.

The only nondiscriminatory law would be no law, as was the case throughout the world where market forces were the only regulation.

However, opposition thinking is that the legislation could be supported as a "step in the right direction". The Democratic Party [DP] has been calling for open cities.

DP MP's believe that Johannesburg, which it now controls, would immediately apply to become an open city, and that together with Sandton, Randburg and Midrand, it would form a nonracial core of the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging].

Mr de Klerk was more cautious on the question of the Land Acts which determine which races may own rural land.

He said there would have to be consultation with all affected groups such as agricultural unions.

The State President repeated the government's decision to scrap the Separate Amenities Act during this session of Parliament. However the DP fears it may make

provision for provincial administrations or municipalities to regulate which races may use their amenities.

Mr de Klerk has not departed from the government's view that the Population Registration Act be negotiated along with the new constitution and that it must remain in place until then.

Hungarian Official on Permanent Mission

MB2004151290 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] A senior Hungarian diplomat said that South Africa has opened a permanent mission in Budapest. The Hungarian news agency reported that Hungary will open a similar office in Pretoria. This March when Foreign Minister Pik Botha visited Hungary, the government informed Hungary that they would exchange missions.

Mr. Jozsef Benyi, Hungarian deputy foreign minister, said that the main reason for taking this step is the 20,000 Hungarians living in South Africa and the thousands who are planning to join them.

Violence Follows Slayings of Free State Youths

MB2004175790 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] There is more violence in the [Orange] Free State township of Rammulotsi following police shootings there yesterday. Police have confirmed reports of sporadic violence, including arson. Sources in the township say there is widespread anger at the allegedly unprovoked shootings during which four people died instantly and because of which another person died in hospital overnight.

Angola**Government, UNITA Might Begin Talks 7 May**

MB2204071190 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0600 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] The Angolan Government and the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement could begin direct talks on the Cape Verde Islands on 7 May.

A Portuguese newspaper, PUBLICO, was given this information by a Portuguese Government official.

It is reported that there is a strong possibility of the peace process going ahead after the Angolan foreign minister, Mr. Pedro de Castro van Dunem, meets the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr. Herman Cohen, in New York this week. He is to visit Lisbon on Thursday [26 April] for talks with independent Angolan opposition members living in Portugal.

Youth League Examines Need To Drop Marxist Line

MB2204072190 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] JMPLA [Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Assistant Secretary Mario Pinto de Andrade has said the main aim of the reforms currently underway in the People's Republic of Angola is to abandon the JMPLA's Marxist-Leninist character.

Andrade chaired a JMPLA meeting on the organization's role in the country's current political changes.

The meeting was held at the (Saide Mingas) Political and Cultural Center and stressed that the need to drop the JMPLA's Marxist-Leninist character means it must be transformed into an ample and democratic organization for the Angolan youth, permitting participation by every young person, irrespective of his or her beliefs.

FAPLA Denies Air Force Aircraft Bombed Namibia

MB2004201990 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1930 GMT 20 Apr

[Text] Two bombs were dropped by bomber aircraft yesterday along the Angolan-Namibian border near a former military base of the former Namibian territorial forces.

The Angolan news agency learned this from a Namibian Police spokesman who pointed out that the phosphorous bombs exploded in an unpopulated area about 4 km from Omega, a former military base located in the Caprivi Strip in northern Namibia.

According to the source, the dropping of the two bombs, which weighed 400 kg and 500 kg, respectively, is the

third such instance in four months along the border between Angola and Namibia.

Meanwhile, the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] General Staff told ANGOP today that the aircraft which dropped the bombs do not belong to the Angolan Air Force, as hinted at by some Western circles.

On the other hand, sources in the Namibian capital point out there are strong indications that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] may have recently established bases in northern Namibia in an attempt to escape attacks by the Angolan Armed Forces.

The same sources revealed that some Portuguese businessmen are involved in supplying fuel and food to UNITA men. UNITA has been using ivory and rhino horns from wildlife killed illegally in areas affected by the war to pay for goods supplied by Portuguese businessmen.

UNITA Storms MPLA's Lunda Barracks 19 Apr

MB2104063590 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance
of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern
and Central Africa 0500 GMT 21 Apr 90

["Political and Military Situation Report" for 1900 GMT on 20 April—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Our forces destroyed two BMP-1 armored vehicles and two cargo vehicles belonging to a unit of the 4th Group's 3d Tactical Group, deployed on the Mavinga front.

2. Starving MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] soldiers have left their trenches in search of corn on peasant farms. In doing so, they have detonated land mines laid by FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] units around their defense lines.

3. The enemy is ready to launch another offensive against UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] liberated areas. The enemy intends to move from Caiundo, Cuando Cubango Province, toward Savate, from where it will seek control of the southern border.

4. Our forces stormed the FAPLA barracks at Capenda-Camulemba, Lunda Province, on 19 April. The enemy abandoned the town after clashing with our forces. A total of 13 FAPLA soldiers were killed and 10 AK's and one 82mm mortar were captured. The enemy unit guarding the town withdrew 22 km beyond its defense lines.

5. FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] will not fall prey to MPLA maneuvers. Unless direct and honest talks are held between UNITA and the MPLA, the war will not end.

[Issued] Office of the Chief of General Staff, 20 April 1990

[Signed] Brigadier Zacarias Mundombe, deputy military intelligence chief

UNITA Reports Cuando Cubango Operations

MB2204062190 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0510 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Communique issued by the FALA chief of general staff in Jamba on 21 April—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] Armed Forces destroyed and sank the raft used to cross the Cubango River, in Cuando Cubango Province's Caiundo district, at 0130 on 20 April.

2. That raft was 30 meters long and 12 meters wide and was used as a means of communication between the central supply base at Menongue city and the MPLA's [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] mobile command post, on the Cubango River's right bank.

3. Our forces carried out this action to warn the MPLA, because the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] units from Caiundo onward are undeniably carrying out an offensive against UNITA-controlled areas with the ultimate aim of controlling the Angolan-Namibian border, as we announced in our communique issued on 19 April.

4. Our armed forces were created to free our land and those Angolans who are worst off. As always, the UNITA armed forces will always correctly respond to the forces led by those who only seek to prolong the Angolan people's subjugation and misery.

For a free fatherland or death!

United we shall win!

[Issued] Jamba, bastion of Angolan resistance, 21 April 1990

[Signed] General Arlindo Chenda Isaac Pena Ben-Ben, FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] chief of general staff

Lesotho

Lekhanya Addresses Mafeteng Rally 21 Apr

MB2104203390 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, His Excellency Major General Metsing Lekhanya, says the chieftainship of Basotho will never cease to exist in the hands of the military government. Speaking at a rally he held in Mafeteng today, the

major general said the public will choose which type of government they prefer in the year 1992.

At the same rally, Maj. Gen. Lekhanya urged students of the National University of Lesotho to go back to their classes when the university reopens. He said it was unfortunate to realize that there are some elements who are only interested in sowing confusion at the university, which cannot bear anyone any fruit in future.

Referring to agriculture and self-sufficiency, the major general reiterated his appeal that all Basotho should contribute in the development of the country, particularly in agriculture. To this effect he urged officials of the Ministry of Agriculture to vacate their offices, and in return to go nearer to the public, as the policy of the present government stipulates that services should be rendered nearer to the public.

Maj. Gen. Lekhanya also cautioned those who are involved in the campaign of dispersing unauthorized and full of sinister motives papers in the streets of the country to refrain from the practice forthwith, as this is intended to sow disquiet among the nation.

Speaking at the same rally, the honorable minister of interior, chieftainship affairs, and rural development, Chief Patrick Molapo, appealed to the nation to assist the armed forces to keep peace in the country. Before the rally, the major general and his entourage were shown the new building of the Lesotho Housing Corporation which was funded by the Government of Canada and the Government of Lesotho.

Mozambique

Disagreement Over Venue Postpones Joint Talks

MB2104101490 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Peace talks between the Mozambican Government and the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] movement have been postponed because of the disagreement over a venue.

Our Africa Desk reports that President Joaquim Chissano is in favor of Lilongwe, in Malawi, and that Renamo prefers the Kenyan capital, Nairobi.

Exploratory talks were held in Nairobi last year with church leaders representing the Mozambican Government.

The peace talks were to have begun this week.

Namibia

President Nujoma Speaks in Katutura 22 Apr

MB2204195090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1945 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Windhoek April 22 SAPA—Namibia's president and leader of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], Mr Sam Nujoma, on Sunday [22 April] announced the party is soon to organise its first congress in Namibia, and warned civil servants not to behave as if they were still working under the old dispensation in Namibia.

Mr Nujoma, a founder member of the party, was speaking to crowd of at least 5000 at Katutura near Windhoek to mark the 30th anniversary of SWAPO on April 19.

He said he was disappointed that certain members of the civil service, particularly in the regions, had misinterpreted the new government's policy of reconciliation, saying although SWAPO had won the November election they were "still the boss".

"SWAPO is quite capable of removing you by the stroke of a pen from where you are," Mr Nujoma warned.

He said SWAPO'S Central Committee would meet soon to work out new strategies and to prepare to hold its first congress in a free and independent Namibia. SWAPO is believed to have last held a congress in Tanzania in 1969.

Mr Nujoma outlined the struggle for Namibia independence that started with the formation of the party in April 1960, after a number of people died resisting forcible arrest from Windhoek's old location to present day Katutura in December 1959.

After much deliberation, SWAPO took the "painful and unavoidable" decision to embark on an armed struggle with the formation of the military wing, PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia], in 1963.

The first shots in the 23-year-long war against South African-led forces in northern Namibia "to break the chains of apartheid colonialism" were exchanged on August 26, 1966.

Mr Nujoma called for a minute's silence to honour the men and women who died in the struggle for independence last month.

Now that the first phase of the struggle had been achieved, Namibia was embarking on a new phase, Mr Nujoma said.

"This phase of economic development is the most difficult aspect of the struggle," he said, but was confident it would succeed in its long an short term aims to build a strong nation and strong economy.

Having won the election and having formed the first government, SWAPO had a responsibility to all Namibians irrespective of colour, creed, religion or place of origin, Mr Nujoma said.

"We have to fulfill this task of ensuring peace and security and stability in our country.

"I am quite confident the Namibian people will support all our government programmes for economic development, because this will be in the interest of, and for the benefit of all, our people," Mr Nujoma said.

Today's children, he said, would not have to endure the suffering and degradation during the 30 years leading up to independence.

"They are forever free."

Nujoma To Improve Relations With Zimbabwe

MB2004114190 Windhoek Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 0600 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] Namibian President Sam Nujoma says his country should consolidate and strengthen its existing relationship with Zimbabwe.

After his return from Zimbabwe, where he had attended that country's 10th independence anniversary celebrations, Mr. Nujoma told the NBC [Namibia Broadcasting Corporation] that ties between the two countries can be improved in areas of trade and cooperation. He said that Zimbabwe's experience, especially in the area of agriculture, can be beneficial to the new independent Namibia. He says Namibia should follow Zimbabwe's example by expanding its agricultural sector and by building enough dams for dry seasons.

SWAPO Chiefs Garoeb Meets Press 18 Apr

MB2104140290 Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English
19 Apr 90 p 5

[Text] On the eve of its 30th anniversary the immediate task of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] was to consolidate the gains achieve with the attainment of independence on March 21.

"The return of the combatants of PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] on the 17th of April is but the first step in the process of consolidation by the party and its government," Moses Garoeb said yesterday at his first press conference as SWAPO chief.

The foundation of SWAPO had not only been of importance to its members, but to the entire Namibian nation, as it marked "the beginning of the most decisive challenge to colonial occupation", he said.

Since its formation and its struggle against colonial domination, SWAPO had rallied patriots behind it who had campaigned and fought "relentlessly" for Namibia's liberation.

"Throughout the past 30 years of SWAPO's existence, Namibian patriots in SWAPO demonstrated unwavering commitment to the struggle for the total liberation of Namibia where other consistently and shamelessly betrayed the sacred cause," he reiterated.

The reconciliation policy on which SWAPO embarked since independence was being "misinterpreted" by many, Garoeb stated.

Reconciliation should in no way be construed as SWAPO having forgotten its election promises. SWAPO, as a liberation movement, had to consolidate itself to give effect to its election promises, the SWAPO chief added.

Garoeb assured the SWAPO membership that the organization, having won the elections, had not abandoned the masses.

"We intend to concretise all the promises made during the struggle and the elections," he conceded.

SWAPO was "the only political saviour" for Namibians, the SWAPO man added, calling on all to rally behind the party.

"It is imperative for Namibians to forget that they have been misguided and join SWAPO without fear of victimisation. That chapter is over now," he said.

A SWAPO congress was constitutionally long overdue and the party intended to have one soon to "reorganise itself. The congress is in the offing," he informed the press.

Anniversary commemoration activities would be held in more than 36 places countrywide, Garoeb said. The gatherings would be attended and addressed by SWAPO Central Committee members.

A weekend rally in Windhoek would be addressed by SWAPO and Namibian President Sam Nujoma.

Trade Minister Discusses Investment Conditions

MB2104200590 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] The Namibian minister of trade and industry, Mr. Ben Amathila, has pointed out that conditions for investment in the country will depend on what is done to alleviate some of the special problems. Mr. Amathila was speaking at a seminar on the economic realities organized by the research unit of the South-West Africa People's Organization in Windhoek. He said Namibians had to realize that conditions for investors would, to a large extent, depend on what the nation was doing collectively to address some of the problems.

Walvis Bay Harbormaster Discusses Port's Role

MB2004181490 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 19 Apr 90

[Text] Mr. (Bill Shewell), harbormaster of Walvis Bay, says it would be unrealistic to declare Walvis Bay a duty-free zone.

Mr. (Shewell) says the population and infrastructure of Walvis Bay are too small for the harbor town to exist as a duty-free zone. He says Walvis Bay can be used as a decentralized harbor for Namibia's neighboring countries and that these countries would then pay for services rendered and would enjoy free access to the harbor.

Zambia

ANC, Church Officials End Talks on Exiles

MB2204185790 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Visiting senior church officials from South Africa and the African National Congress [ANC] today ended their meeting in Lusaka which discussed systems of repatriation of exiled ANC members. The meeting demanded a general immunity for those returning to South Africa and a general amnesty for the release of political prisoners.

Deputy Secretary General of the South African Council of Churches Comrade (Rope Baum) said the ANC had been charged with the task of collecting statistics of how many people are outside South Africa to enable their repatriation. Comrade (Baum) also said the United Nations High Commission for Refugees also briefed the meeting on how to handle the repatriation exercise.

Sudanese President Asks Kaunda To Mediate

MB2104184590 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Sudanese President General Umar Hasan al-Bashir has asked President Kaunda to mediate in the conflict in Sudan. Speaking at Kasaba Bay this afternoon before he held talks with Comrade Kaunda, the Sudanese leader requested Comrade Kaunda to play a more positive role to end the fighting in his country.

General al-Bashir, who is chairman of the National Salvation Council of Sudan, said he was confident that Comrade Kaunda, as a respected African statesman and chairman of the Frontline States, would help in resolving the dispute in Sudan. He said Sudan is to open an embassy in Lusaka to enable it to serve as a [words indistinct] bridge [word indistinct] the Arab north and sub-Saharan Africa.

Comrade Kaunda, whose team to the talks included the party secretary general, Comrade Grey Zulu; the prime minister, General Malimba Masheke; Secretary of State for Defense and Security Comrade Alex Shapi, said

Sudan should be a [word indistinct] bridge. He said he was happy that there were what he termed [word indistinct] measures) from Khartoum toward efforts to end the war.

The Sudanese Government has been battling with rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, the SPLA, for the past six years in the southern part of the country.

Zimbabwe

Mugabe Meets Ugandan Official, Coretta Scott King

MB2004140190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1246 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] Harare April 20 SAPA—The first deputy Ugandan prime minister, Eriya Kateguya, on Friday [20 April] paid a courtesy visit to President Robert Mugabe at State House.

He was followed by Coretta Scott King, widow of American civil rights activists, Martin Luther King.

Mr Kateguya and Mrs King were in Zimbabwe to participate in the country's 10th independence celebrations, ZIANA reports.

Radio Truth Assesses Mugabe Mediation Abilities

MB2104123590 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English
to Zimbabwe 1730 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] For a long time, Comrade Mugabe and his colleagues rejected any suggestion of peace overtures to end the civil war.

In fact, our leader went so far as to say that he would not accept Renamo's Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) participation in the government of Mozambique. That was an arrogant assumption that denied the people of that country their democratic rights.

Lately, the scene has changed, and our president, together with President Arap Moi, of Kenya, has been appointed as a mediator to try and bring the warring factions to the negotiating table.

This has not been welcomed by the MNR, who say that our leader cannot possibly be impartial and unbiased, qualities that a mediator must possess. There can be no doubt that a peaceful resolution of the Mozambican conflict, leading to a general election and a freely chosen government, would herald a new dawn of progress and prosperity for both countries. Without it, Mozambique can become Zimbabwe's Vietnam.

On another vital issue, our ruling party has given active support to a [word indistinct] cadres of the ANC [African National Congress] and the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], despite promises to the contrary. They have allowed these revolutionary movements to establish command structures and planning headquarters in our land. They have sanctioned or turned a blind eye to the transit of terror gangs across our territory.

It has been proven beyond doubt that the premises occupied by these organizations are guarded by members of our own security forces. Over the years and right up to the recent dramatic events that have unfolded in South Africa, active assistance was provided in escorting armed revolutionaries to the border from whence they infiltrated into South Africa directly or through Botswana. Those who escaped counteraction were afforded sanctuary within our borders.

There has been evidence, too, that the ZNA [Zimbabwe National Army] has been used as a conduit in the supply of arms and explosives to the ANC and PAC from sources in Libya. Evidence led in a number of court cases revealed that ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] regards these groups as an integral part of Zimbabwean society and virtually an extension of our own defense force. These actions provoked a number of retaliatory raids by South African commandos and counteraction by certain local citizens who oppose the terror campaign being mounted with our government's assistance.

The Mozambican war the [words indistinct] of an invasion from South Africa have resulted in enormous expenditure on financing arms of war, none of which our country really needs. Millions of dollars have been spent or committed on [words indistinct] air defense equipment, tanks, armored cars, and other armaments, while the economy has been allowed to stagnate.

Liberia

Constitution Defense Movement Requests Cease-Fire

AB2204194390 Monrovia Domestic Service in English
1709 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] The Movement in Defense of Liberian Constitution, the MDLC, at a meeting recently to obtain views from the citizenry on the conflict in the country, reportedly voted on a cease-fire and a prompt ending of the conflict by peaceful means through mediation and consultation both at home and abroad.

According to a release issued by the MDLC last evening, the meeting at the Monrovia City Hall agreed further to appoint a technical committee to draft a resolution reflecting the views expressed by the citizens at the meeting. The release was signed by the general secretary of the MDLC, Mr. Daniel Johnson, and approved by its chairman, Mr. Chea Cheapoo, and said the meeting was attended by diplomats, church leaders, political parties, and an impressive number of the general public.

War Reportedly Spreading to Grand Bassa

AB2004212890 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 20 Apr 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The civil war between Charles Taylor's Patriotic Front of Liberia rebels in Nimba County and Government forces has now spread over into neighboring districts. It has apparently moved south out of Nimba County into Grand Bassa County. Our correspondent, Elizabeth Blunt, has been trying to get north to the troubled area, but was soon turned back. She telexed this report from Buchanan in Grand Bassa:

[Begin studio announcer recording] For travelers heading north through Grand Bassa, the end of the road comes at a point about an hour and a quarter's drive from the iron ore port of Buchanan, known as Ice Town or FBA Junction. There, a group of never-seen young soldiers blocked the way, leaping for their guns as they see a vehicle approach. When I asked about the chances of going another 45 minutes' drive to Glue Zone, they said: No way! It was not safe even one mile down the road. They themselves had not been able to reach Glue Zone. They had met people, rebel people on the way. The soldiers said that most residents had already left the area north of their check point. The Army, indeed, was advising them to do so, so they would not be caught in the crossfire, and because the rebels were forcing young men to join them.

South of the junction, there have been no reports of rebel activity. But in the huge Liberian agricultural company rubber plantation just down the road, work goes on as usual, and although the little town of Koble is nearly

deserted, this is because of bad behavior by soldiers, and not because of rebel attacks.

The Liberian Government has repeatedly denied that any part of national territory was in rebel hands. But it is becoming clear that the rebels do not rely for their impact on taking and holding villages. This is a conflict of raids and ambushes, emptying towns and making roads unsafe. In this sense, the conflict has already spread beyond the confines of Nimba and is beginning to disrupt life in a large swath of central Liberia. [end recording]

Niger

Government Bans Student Demonstrations, Gatherings

AB2100084000 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] The cabinet met in extraordinary session today, 20 April 1990, under the chairmanship of Brigadier General Ali Saibou, the head of state, to examine the situation in schools. The cabinet reviewed the unfortunate incidents that took place in some parts of the country despite the head of state's appeal to students on 11 April.

The government noted that most students are willing to resume classes in a quiet atmosphere and are determined to prevent the proclamation of an invalid academic year. Thus, beginning Monday 23 April, measures will be taken to ensure the security of students who want to resume classes in tranquility and security.

In this regard, the government expressed satisfaction with the sense of responsibility shown by the parents of students, who organized themselves in groups to prevent troublemakers from disrupting classes.

In accordance with the law and taking into account the acts of vandalism that have been perpetrated, instructions will be issued to all prefects and subprefects, mayors, and heads of administrative departments to ban all demonstrations and gatherings organized by students until calm is restored.

Nigeria

Reportage on Coup Attempt in Lagos

Coup Attempt Reported Under Way

NC2204053590 Paris AFP in English 0532 GMT
22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—A coup attempt was under way in the Nigerian capital of Lagos early Sunday as insurgents announced on radio the fall of the regime of President Ibrahim Babangida.

An Agence France-Presse correspondent heard automatic machine gun fire early Sunday around the Dodan Barracks where President Babangida resides.

'Successful' Coup Announced

AB2204092090 Lagos Domestic Service
in English 0600 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Fellow Nigerian citizens, on behalf of the patriotic and well-meaning peoples of the Middle Belt and southern parts of this country, I, Major Gigi Ngwaza Orkar, wish to happily inform you of the successful ousting of the dictatorial, corrupt, drug-baronish, inhumane, sadistic, deceitful, homosexually-centered, (polygamic), and unpatriotic administration of General Ibrahim Gbadamasi Babangida.

We have equally commenced their trials for unabated corruption, mismanagement of the national economy, the murders of Dele Giwa, Major General N.J. Vasa with other officers as theirs was not an attempted coup but [word indistinct] intentions that were yet to materialize and other human rights violations.

The National Guard, already in its formative stage, is hereby disbanded with immediate effect. Decrees No. 2 and 47 are also hereby abrogated. We wish to emphasize that this is not just another coup, but a well-conceived plan on [word indistinct] revolution of the national lives of oppressed and enslaved people of the Middle Belt and the south with a view to save ourselves and our children yet unborn from [word indistinct], slavery, and [word indistinct] by a clique of this country.

Our history is [word indistinct] with numerous and uncountable instances of callous and insensitive, domineering, and oppressive intrigues by various [words indistinct] to dominate in vitality, brutality, the political privileges of this country, the exclusion of the peoples of the Middle Belt and the south. They have only succeeded in subjugating the Middle Belt by making them voiceless and are now extending that to the south. It is our unflinching belief that this trend of domination, oppression, and marginization is against the will of God and therefore must be resisted with all vehemence.

Something that has a beginning must have an end. It will only suffice here to state that all Nigerians [words indistinct] need not to be afraid of this change. However, those [words indistinct] have all reasons to fear because the time of reckoning has come. For Nigerians of south, we wish to state the three primary reasons why we have decided out the satanic Babangida administration. The reasons are as follows:

First, to stop Babangida's desire to cunningly install himself as Nigerian's life president at all costs and by so doing retard the progress of this country for life. In order to be able to achieve this undesirable goal of his, he has evidently started destroying those groups and [word indistinct] he perceived as being able to question his desire. Examples of groups already [words indistinct]

against one another or completely destroyed are: The Sokoto Kalife by his unwanted [word indistinct] to cause division within the (?administration) of the Sokoto Kalife.

Two, the destruction of the peoples of Plateau State, Osikans and Lankansikus, a balancing force to the [word indistinct] politics of this country.

Three, the [word indistinct] of the press by generous monetary favors and the usage of SSS [State Security Service] as a tool of terror.

Four, the intent to cow the students by the promulgation of the draconian Decree No. 47.

Five, the trying of the university teaching and non-teaching staff by an intended martial court using the 150 million [word indistinct] as the [word indistinct] factor.

Six, the [words indistinct] funds to the Armed Forces to make them ineffective and overcoming with diabolical schemes through the intended entertainment of more than half of the members of the Armed Forces.

Other pointers that give credence to his desire to become a life president against the wishes of the people are: his appointment by himself as the minister of defense; his putting under his direct control the SSS; his deliberate manipulation of the transition program; his introduction of an inconceivable, unrealistic, and impossible political option; his regional organization with other African leaders who have installed themselves as life presidents, and his recent determination to create a secret force termed the National Guard, independent of the Armed Forces and police, which will be [word indistinct] to himself alone both operationally and administratively. It is our solid view that this kind of dictatorial desire of Babangida is unacceptable to the Nigerians of the 1990's and therefore must be resisted by all.

[Text] B. [as heard] Another major reason for the change is the need to stop intrigues, domination, and internal colonization of the Nigerian State by the so-called Christian few. This, in our view, has been an [words indistinct] our problems as Nigerians. This, indeed, has been the major clog in our wheel for progress. This clique has an unabated penchant for domination and rival fostering or mediocrity and the absolute [word indistinct] to accountability. All put together this has been our undoing as a nation.

This will ever remain our [word indistinct] we must check immediately. It is strongly believed that without the intrigues perpetrated by this clique and misrule, Nigeria would have, in all ways, achieved developmental ratings comparable to those of Korea, Taiwan, Brazil, India, and even Japan. Evidence is there that this cancerous dominance has as a factor constituted a major and unpardonable clog in the wheel of progress of the Nigerian state. It will suffice to mention a few [word indistinct] intrigues engineered by this clique of Nigeria in recent times. These are:

1. The [word indistinct] and dishonorable treatment meted on the longest serving Nigerian general in the person of Major General Domkat Bali, who, in actual fact, has given a credibility to the Babangida administration.

2. The whole (?wholesale) hijacking of the Babangida administration by the old powerful clique.

3. The disgraceful and unexplicable (?disorder) of Omodu Ebita Ikiro, Prof. David Worth, Mr. Ared Adam, and so on from the service of [words indistinct] to the so-called Nigerian ruling class.

4. The [word indistinct] on outgoing entrenchment of Middle Belt and southerners from public offices and their recent replacement by the [words indistinct].

5. The deliberate distortion of the educational culture by the sudden [words indistinct] to the detriment of other educationally minded parts of this country.

6. The deliberate impoverishment of the peoples from the Middle Belt and the south, making them looking good and feeding on the formulae of 010 or 000 [as heard], while the aristocratic class and [word indistinct] are living in [words indistinct].

7. Other concrete examples of the [word indistinct], oppressive, [word indistinct] games and intrigues of this class, while people's [words indistinct] are based on the fact that [passage indistinct] that has over the years sat and presided over the supposedly national wealth derived in the main from the Middle Belt and the southern parts of this country, while the peoples of this part of the country have been completely deprived from benefiting from the resources given to them by God.

C. The third reason for the change is the need to lay a strong egalitarian foundation for the real democratic people of the Nigerian State or States, as the circumstances may desire.

In the light of all the above, and in recognition of the negativeness of their formation as a subtractive factor to the overall progress of the Nigerian state, we have taken the decision to excise the following states, namely Sokoto, Borno, Katsina, Kano, and Bauchi States, from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and this with effect immediately until the following conditions are met. The conditions to be met to reinstate the reabsorption of the aforementioned states are as follows:

a. To install the rightful heir to Sultan Alhaji Maccido, who is the people's choice;

b. To send a delegation in order to [words indistinct] recognize Sir Alhaji the Federal Government [words indistinct] subtractive force for domination and oppression [words indistinct] has never been practiced in any part of the Nigerian state.

By the same token, all citizens of the five states already mentioned are temporarily suspended from all public

and private offices in Middle Belt and southern parts of this country until the mentioned conditions imposed are met. They are also required to move back to their various states within one week from today. They will, however, be allowed to return again to the Federal Republic of Nigeria when the stipulated conditions are met. For the time being, all citizens of the Middle Belt and the South are required to come back to their various states pending when the so-called (?all-in- all) Nigerians meet the conditions (?for ensuring) a united Nigeria. A word is enough for the wise.

This exercise will not be complete without purging corrupt public officials and recovering their ill-gotten wealth [words indistinct]. Even in these hard times, when Nigerians are dying from hunger, footing many miles to work for lack of transportation, other few Nigerians with complete impunity are living in unbelievable [words indistinct] both inside and outside the country. We are extremely determined to recover all ill-gotten wealth back to the public treasury for the use of the masses of our people. We are all advised to remain calm as there is no cause for alarm. We are fully in control of the situation [words indistinct].

All airports, seaports, and borders are closed forthwith. The former Armed Forces Ruling Council is now disbanded and replaced with a National Relief Council to be chaired by the head of state, with other members being a civilian vice head of state, service chiefs, the superintendent of police, one representative each from NLC [Nigerian Labor Congress], NUJ [Nigerian Union of Journalists], NBA [National Bar Association], and NUNS [National Union of Nigerian Students]. A curfew is hereby imposed from 8 PM [0700 GMT] to 6 AM [0500 GMT] until further notice. All members of the Armed Forces and the Police Force are hereby confined to their respective barracks. All unlawful and criminal acts by those attempting to cause chaos will be ruthlessly crushed. Be warned as we are prepared at all cost to defend the new order. All radio stations are hereby advised to hook up permanently to the National Network program until further notice. Long live all true patriots of this great country of ours. May God and Allah through his bountiful mercy bless us all.

Insurgents Announce Fall of Babangida

AB2204064090 Paris AFP in English 0608 GMT
22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—A coup attempt appeared to be underway Sunday in the Nigerian capital of Lagos as anonymous insurgents announced on national radio the fall of the regime of President Ibrahim Babangida.

An anonymous voice read a communique which said all borders had been closed and that the army and the police had been consigned to their barracks.

"This is not one more coup d'etat, but a revolution for national rights," the speaker said.

Beginning early Sunday morning, bursts of automatic gunfire were heard around the Dodan Barracks, where President Babangida resides.

An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent saw Army units being deployed in streets around the government barracks.

At 6:00 A.M., a radio station broadcast a first message by insurgents who said the "dictatorial regime" of General Babangida had fallen. They said they were acting to defend the national rights of inhabitants in the south of Nigeria and the central "Middle Belt" who had been reduced to "internal slavery" by the domination of Nigerians in the north.

The same message was broadcast a half hour later on national radio.

However, the situation appeared completely normal in the Ikoyi neighborhood surrounding the government barracks.

Pedestrians were seen walking on the streets at daybreak, confounded by the radio message.

TASS Report

LD2204071690 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0705 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Lagos, 22 Apr (TASS)—Nigerian radio reported this morning that a coup has taken place in the country. According to a statement read out by an announcer, the regime of President Ibrahim Babangida has been deposed.

According to the statement, the aim of the coup organizers is "to defend the rights" of the inhabitants of southern and central Nigeria, who "are suffering from the domination" of northerners.

The statement also said that the country's borders have been closed, and army and police detachments have been ordered not to leave their barracks. [passage omitted]

Division Dissociates Itself From Coup

AB2204090290 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
0750 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Communique read by Colonel (Dankoho Mohamed), commander of I Mechanized Infantry Division, Kaduna; in Kaduna 22 April—live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians: I, Colonel (Dankoho Mohamed), the acting general officer commanding I Mechanized Division, hereby wish to be consistent with avowed loyalty to the nation and the president commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Ibrahim Gbadamasi Babangida, and to the chief of Army staff our unreserved loyalty by officers and soldiers of I Mechanized Infantry Division, Kaduna. [sentence as heard]

Any elements that constitute themselves as retrogressive group to cause chaos, we officers and soldiers of I Mechanized Infantry Division dissociate ourselves from this group. As far as I Mechanized Division is concerned, any attempt to destabilize the socioeconomic and political progress of this nation I Division has nothing to do with what is happening in the group in Lagos. We advise all troops to remain calm and all citizens to go about their normal businesses. God bless!

'Solidarity Announcement'

AB2204093090 Lagos Domestic Service
in English 0900 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] This is a solidarity announcement by committees of the National Union of Journalists, Nigerian Labor Congress, Nigerian Bar Association, National Association of Nigerian Students, and Market Women respectively. Fellow citizens of the Middle Belt and the southern states:

This is the opportunity to free yourselves from internal slavery. You are to come out in masses in support of this long overdue revolution. All students, market women, members of labor unions, and indeed the masses now have the golden opportunity to show your support. Thank you!

'Gunfire' Near President's Residence

AB2204102390 Dakar PANA in French
0915 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, 22 Apr (PANA)—Radio Nigeria has been announcing continuously Sunday morning that General Ibrahim Babangida, in power since August 1985, was ousted in a military coup d'etat Saturday night.

A communique read on the radio by Major Ngwaza Orkar notes that "the successful coup" is revenge by the Middle Belt states (Benue, Plateau) and the southern states against those of the north.

According to the PANA correspondent in Lagos, as of 0700 GMT, one could still hear gunfire around the Ikoyi residential area where Dodan Barracks, the president's military residence, is located.

Major Ngwaza also announced a 2000-0600 curfew until further notice and the dissolution of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC).

As of 0830 GMT, there was no news of President Babangida or his entourage nor any indication of casualties. It is also not known if the coup is limited to Lagos State or if other Nigerian states (20) are involved.

Five States Said 'Excised'

AB2204100190 Paris AFP in English
0952 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—Five northern states have been "excised" from the Nigerian federation with immediate effect, according to a coup plotter speaking on official Radio Nigeria hours after the announcement that President Ibrahim Babangida had been overthrown.

Rebels earlier said on the radio that General Babangida had been ousted, after bursts of automatic gunfire and heavy artillery fire were heard near the Dodan Barracks in Lagos, where the president lives.

An anonymous speaker read out a statement saying the borders had been closed and declaring an 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

"This is not one more coup d'etat, but a revolution for national rights," he said, accusing Gen. Babangida of wanting to be "president for life" and stating that the Army and the police had been confined to barracks.

However, it was not clear that the coup had succeeded, with some observers saying the rebels may only have gained control of the radio station, a few hundred metres (yards) from the Dodan Barracks.

In the later announcement, a Major Uka said that Sokoto, Borno, Katsina, Kano and Bauchi states have been excised from the rest of the country and would be re-absorbed only when the leadership of Sokoto Caliphate is returned to Alhaji Muhammadu Maccido.

The sultan of Sokoto is the spiritual leader of Nigeria's moslems, based mainly in the north of the country. Mr Maccido had contested the sultanate, but lost to Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, a millionaire businessman and former diplomat who was officially installed last month.

Major Uka said the powerful northern states, as part of conditions for re-admission into Nigeria, should send a delegation led by Mr. Maccido to the new government, to vouch that the "feudalistic and aristocratic" domination of the country by the north "would be a thing of the past".

All citizens of the five states, including Sultan Dasuki, had been relieved of their "private and official" offices with immediate effect until these conditions are met, but were free to return to their states of origin, the announcement said.

Mr. Dasuki had acceded to the sultanate in November 1988. According to informed sources, rioting over this election left about 100 people dead. He was on May 4 to swear in his nephew, Budget and Planning Minister Abubakar Alhaji, as his 'sardauna,' or prime minister, a post with traditional executive power in northwestern Nigeria.

The Armed Forces Ruling Council, the highest decision-making body of the Babangida regime, has been disbanded with immediate effect, and replaced by a national ruling council, Major Uka also said.

He announced the dismissal of the National Guard, a secret military force which he said was instituted late last year by Gen. Babangida to assist him in his ambition of being "life president".

The plotters also announced the immediate abrogation of the six-year-old preventive detention law, "Decree 2", which had empowered the government to detain any person suspected of being a security risk for a renewable period of six weeks without trial.

The rebels earlier said they were acting to defend the national rights of people in the south and the central "Middle Belt", who had been reduced to "slavery" by northern domination.

This was understood as an indication that the rebels could be officers from the Central Plateau State, possibly some who had been high up in the military hierarchy until they were swept aside in a major reshuffle which Gen. Babangida carried out last December.

Uka sounded like a "Middle Belt" name, according to observers.

Several hours after the first radio announcement, the situation was still unclear. Several armoured cars were seen near Dodan Barracks, but there was nothing to indicate whether the occupants were rebels or soldiers loyal to Gen. Babangida.

Since the bursts of gunfire and heavy artillery at 2:00 a.m. near the barracks, there had been silence, except for sporadic shots.

Traffic was thin, but as usual for early Sunday. People out on the streets were concerned and incredulous. They were surprised not to see roadblocks at major crossroads or on main roads close to the barracks.

Gen. Babangida, who took power in a 1985 coup, was masterminding a carefully controlled return to civilian rule in October 1992. He had appointed two new political parties as the only ones with the right to contest elections.

Rebels Hold Radio Station

AB2204103990 Paris AFP in English 1032 GMT
22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—Rebel soldiers who early Sunday announced the overthrow of Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida were still in control of the radio station here five hours later, reporters on the spot said.

Troops with tanks and guns had blocked roads linking the Dodan Barracks, where General Babangida lives and has his offices, with the radio station and the complex of federal ministry buildings.

There was sporadic gunfire, but not at particular targets. "They (the troops) are just shooting into the air to maintain their presence and to ward off reaction," a source close to the barracks told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The tanks were faced out into roads around the barracks, presumably to check a potential assault by soldiers from Ikeja, a military base in the capital, or from Ikeja, a military base in the capital, or from Ibadan, headquarters of the Second Mechanised Division of the Nigerian Army.

The Ibadan Base, about 140 kilometres (87 miles) north of the capital, is commanded by General Aliyu Mohammed, a member of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC), the top decision-making body in the Babangida regime.

The Second Mechanised Division is responsible for protecting Lagos and four neighboring states.

Government Troops Recapture Radio

*AB2204113790 Paris AFP in French 1121 GMT
22 Apr 90*

[Text] Lagos, 22 Apr (AFP)—The insurgents have been dislodged from the Federal Radio house, where the government forces now have the situation in control, according to a message broadcast on the radio shortly before 1100 GMT. An anonymous announcer said a new declaration will follow.

Early this morning, insurgents took over the radio and claimed that they had overthrown President Ibrahim Babangida.

Situation Following Coup Attempt

*AB2204145590 Paris AFP in French 1215 GMT
22 Apr 90*

[Excerpts] Lagos, 22 Apr (AFP)—Shortly before 1100 GMT this morning, Nigerian Government forces announced on National Radio that they had brought the situation under control after dislodging the insurgents from the radio building and surrounding the rebels. The insurgents took over the radio about 0200 this morning and stated that they had overthrown President Ibrahim Babangida. However, traffic was normal at the airport and telecommunications continued to operate normally.

According to some sources, an emergency cabinet meeting, which just ended, decided to launch the counteroffensive. The authorities had up until then "left the insurgents alone." Now, more intense gunfire was heard at about 1045 GMT, it was noted on the spot. Some sources say the president himself chaired the emergency meeting, while others say he is in Kaduna.

Some 10 hours after the first gunshots, cannons and machine-guns were fired again at 1000 GMT near the Federal Radio building and President Babangida's residence at Dodan Barracks. The insurgents had stationed

several armored vehicles in firing position to prevent access to the Federal Radio Station, as well as to the presidential barracks by loyal reinforcement troops from the northern suburbs of Lagos, the only possible access. Control by the insurgents, whose real strength and equipment are unknown, seemed limited to this specific district of the capital.

This indicates that their attempt was doomed to failure, according to observers. No troop movement was reported around Lagos Airport, where the plane from New York landed without incident early this morning. The airport was still open as at 0900, about seven hours after the first gunshots in the city. Telecommunications services, telephone and telex, were functioned normally. [passage omitted on previously filed material]

Cannons and automatic weapons were first heard at about 0200 this morning around Dodan Barracks and another major military camp two km away, the "Bonny Camp." At about 0500, the AFP correspondent met several commando units deployed around Dodan Barracks and moving silently toward the barracks. These were apparently insurgents who were trying to surround the presidential camp. An hour later, not a single soldier was visible in this district of the city, and gunshots were still heard a few streets away.

General Says Government Controls Situation

*AB2204140790 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1315 GMT 22 Apr 90*

[Statement by Sani Abacha, chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Nigerian Army; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians: I, General Sani Abacha, chief of Army staff [passage indistinct].

Early this morning, there was sporadic firing by a few disloyal and misguided soldiers in some isolated parts of Lagos followed by an embarrassing radio broadcast.

Fellow Nigerians, you will all agree with me that the reasons given for this grave misconduct are significantly motivated by greed and self-interest. The soldiers involved decided to constitute themselves into national [words indistinct], for no other cause than these [words indistinct].

Most of these disloyal elements have been arrested and are already undergoing interrogation. The remaining dissidents are advised in their own interest to report to the nearest military location and hand over the arms and ammunitions in their position.

All formation and unit commanders are hereby directed to exercise effective command and control.

At this stage, let me reiterate our commitment to pursue vigorously the transition program. No amount of threat

or blackmail will distract the Federal Military Government's attention in this regard. We are set to hand over power to a (?more) democratically elected government in 1992.

I wish to assure all law-abiding citizens that the situation is now under control, and people should go about [words indistinct] (?business).

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria! Thank you!

'Heavy Loss of Life' Reported

AB2204140090 Paris AFP in French 1341 GMT
22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, 22 Apr (AFP)—A source close to the Federal Military Government has indicated that the coup attempt Sunday morning in Lagos resulted in "heavy loss of life."

The clashes left victims mainly in the Obalende neighborhood near Dodan Barracks, according to the same source.

General Babangida is in "complete control of the situation" and will very shortly make a statement over radio and television, a source close to the Nigerian head of state told AFP.

Division Pledges Loyalty to Government

AB2204151590 Ibadan Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 22 Apr 90 (Tentative)

[Text] Fellow Nigerians: I, Colonel (Jegbuo Archibong), on behalf of the general officer commanding II Mechanized Infantry Division of the Nigerian Army, Major General Aliu Mohammed, do hereby make the following statement: That we, the entire officers and soldiers of II Mechanized Infantry Division of the Nigerian Army, do hereby disassociate ourselves from the broadcast by the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, Lagos, this morning. We hereby pledge our loyalty to the Federal Military Government and the commander in chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces. Further directives will be given later. Thank you.

TV Carries Announcement Coup 'Crushed'

LD2204154290 Lagos NTA Television Network
in English 1500 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] Good afternoon, here is a news update:

The federal military government under the leadership of General Ibrahim Babangida has crushed a military uprising carried out in Lagos in the early hours of today by some dissidents. In a broadcast being relayed over the network of Radio Nigeria, the Chief of Army Staff, Lt Gen Sani Abacha, had this to say:

[Begin recording] [Video shows Nigerian Seal, with words "Federal Republic of Nigeria"] I, Lt Gen Sani Abacha, chief of Army Staff, chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff, have found it necessary to address you once again

in the course of our nation's history in view of the unfortunate development early this morning.

I am in touch with the CGS [Chief of General Staff], the service chiefs, the GOC, FOC and AOC [general, fleet and air officers commanding] of the Armed Forces and they have all pledged their unflinching support and loyalty to the federal military government of General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida who is perfectly safe and with whom I am in contact.

Early this morning there was sporadic firing by a few disloyal and misguided soldiers in some isolated parts of Lagos followed by an embarrassing radio broadcast.

Fellow Nigerians, you will all agree with me that the reasons given for this grave misconduct are significantly motivated by greed and self-interest. The soldiers involved decided to constitute themselves into a national security (?nuisance) for no other cause than (?barest avarice).

Most of these disloyal elements have been arrested and are already undergoing interrogation. The remaining dissidents are advised in their own interest to report to the nearest military location and hand over the arms and ammunition in their possession. All formation and unit commanders are hereby directed to exercise effective command and control.

At this stage let me reiterate our commitment to pursue vigorously the transition program. No amount of threats or blackmail will detract the federal military government's attention in this regard. We are set to hand over power to a democratically elected government in 1992.

I wish to assure all law-abiding citizens that the situation is now under control and people should go about pursuing their local interests.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Thank you.
[end recording]

Army Chief Says Babangida 'Perfectly Safe'

AB2204160890 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1533 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Statement by Sani Abacha, chairman of the Nigerian Army Joint Chiefs of Staff; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians: I, Lieutenant General Sani Abacha, chief of Army Staff, chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, have found it necessary to address you once again in the cause of our nation's history, in view of the unfortunate development early this morning. I am in touch with the CGS [chief of general staff], the Service chiefs, GOC's [general officers commanding], FOC's [flag officers commanding], and AOC's [air officers commanding] of the Armed forces, and they have all pledged their unflinching support and loyalty to the

Federal Military Government of General Ibrahim Gbadamassi Babangida, who is perfectly safe, and with whom I am in contact.

Early this morning, there was sporadic firing by a few disloyal and misguided soldiers in some isolated parts of Lagos, followed by an embarrassing radio broadcast. Fellow Nigerians, you will all agree with me that the reasons given for this grave misconduct are significantly motivated by greed and self-interest. The soldiers involved decided to constitute themselves into a national security nuisance, for no other cause than base avarice. Most of these disloyal elements have been arrested and are already undergoing interrogation. The remaining dissidents are advised in their own interest to report to the nearest military location and hand over the arms and ammunition in their possession. All formation and unit commanders are hereby directed to exercise effective command and control.

At this stage, let me reiterate our commitment to pursue vigorously the transition program. No amount of threats or blackmail will detract the Federal Military Government's attention in this regard. We are set to hand over power to a democratically elected government in 1992. I wish to assure all law-abiding citizens that the situation is now under control, and people should go about pursuing their lawful interests. Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria! Thank you.

Brigade Pledges Support for Babangida

AB2204182890 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Apr 90

[From the "Correspondents' Reports" program]

[Summary From Poor Reception] From Kano, we hear from Correspondent Felix Tanga that officers and men of the III Mechanized Brigade, Nigerian Army, have disassociated themselves from the announcement made this morning by the coup plotters. [Begin recording] [Tanga] The commander of the III Mechanized Brigade warned that any attempts to destabilize the economic and political situation of the country by anybody would be resisted. "The brigade commander then pledged the unflinching and unalloyed loyalty of the Army and Air Force in Kano to the president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, General Ibrahim Babangida, and the Federal Government."

[Brigade Commander] "On behalf of the officers and men of III Mechanized Brigade, the commander, 303 [word indistinct] School, Nigeria Air Force, Kano, disassociate ourselves from the announcement this morning of (?a reported) change of government by some groups of the progressive [word indistinct] within the Army. We are, therefore, by this announcement [passage indistinct] chief of the Armed Forces, Gen. Ibrahim Gbadamasi Babangida and the Federal Military Government."

TASS on Foiled Coup Attempt

LD2204172190 Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT
22 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos April 22 TASS—An attempted military coup has been foiled in Nigeria. "The situation is under control," Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Sanni Abacha said on state radio. He said that he is in contact with President Ibrahim Babangida.

According to Abacha, all service chiefs "pledged their unflinching support and loyalty to the Federal Military Government."

The general pointed out that the Nigerian leadership was fully committed to its programme for a return to civil rule. "No amount of threat or blackmail will detract us in this regard," he stressed.

Abacha called on rebel soldiers who are still free to surrender and hand over their arms." [end quotation marks as received]

Mopping-up Continues

LD2204183790 Lagos NTA Television Network
in English 1800 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] A team of NTA news correspondents, [names indistinct], which has been monitoring the situation in Lagos, the only area affected by the skirmish, reports that Nigerians started going about their business early in the day without waiting for the broadcast of the chief of army staff and that of the lieutenant colonel. The taxi cabs were on the road as usual, while some stayed to observe their Sunday.

Many Nigerians who listened to the dissidents' broadcast were not impressed, but pinned their hope on a military operation, which eventually flushed out the dissidents. According to our correspondents, mopping-up operations are continuing in the affected areas, including (obalindi), where firing was heard in the early hours. There are security checks at various points by troops in full battle dress. [poor-quality video shows street scenes filmed from inside moving vehicle]

Babangida News Briefing

LD2204182990 Lagos NTA Television Network
in English 1800 GMT 22 Apr 90

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida this evening briefed newsmen at Dodan Barracks on the uprising initially created by a group of military men in the early hours of this morning. State House Correspondent Shola Atere quotes the president as commending members of the Nigerian Armed Forces for their gallantry in quashing the rebellion. He also commended Nigerians for their steadfast support for the present administration's effort to create a peaceful and stable environment.

[Begin Babangida recording] Fellow Nigerians: I salute you all. First and foremost, let me assure you further that

the unfortunate situation of this morning in some parts of Lagos has been brought under control by loyal troops, as earlier stated by the chief of Army Staff and chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Lieutenant General Sani Abacha, with whom I have been in contact, and he is with me this evening.

I also want to take this opportunity to commend all members of the Nigerian Armed Forces, the Nigerian police, and the security agents for the gallant and professional manner in which the situation was contained. Let me also congratulate the civil populace for their continuing support for the federal administration.

I wish to state that all law-abiding citizens should go about their normal duties, and their safety is guaranteed. Let me also assure the diplomatic community and all foreigners in the country that the security of their lives and property is hereby guaranteed.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria!

Thank you for your cooperation. [poor-quality video shows Babangida seated on dais, flanked by military officers] [end recording]

Babangida Address

*AB2204181590 Paris AFP in English 1804 GMT
22 Apr 90*

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—Nigerian military leader Ibrahim Babangida said Sunday that a coup attempt by rebel officers against his government had failed and that the situation was "under control"

His statement to journalists at the press centre of the presidential Dodan Barracks confirmed an earlier report on radio by Army Chief of Staff Sani Abacha.

But General Babangida said that the foiled coup left a number of casualties, including his personal bodyguard Colonel Usman K. Bello, who was killed early Sunday when the barracks was "severely bombarded".

General Abacha's driver was also killed, according to sources close to the president.

Gen. Babangida said his family was fine, and confirmed that the majority of rebels had been arrested and were being questioned. They would be tried "very rapidly", he said.

"We shall judge them as we did the last time," he said, referring to General Mamman Vatsa, executed in 1986 with a dozen officers after an earlier plot to overthrow Gen. Babangida was uncovered.

He assured diplomats and other foreigners in the country that the security of their lives and property was guaranteed.

He commended members of the Nigerian Armed Forces, the police and other security agents for the "gallant and professional manner" by which the situation was contained.

Babangida Says Many Arrests Made

LD2204213390

[Editorial report] Lagos NTA Television Network in English at 2100 GMT on 22 April broadcasts a report on Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida's briefing to journalists following the aborted coup attempt. As the video shows Babangida seated at a dais flanked by military officers, he says that "a lot of arrests have been made, both in terms of officers and other ranks. Mostly these officers are majors, lieutenants, and second lieutenants. (?Ours is) military; we will try them just like we did last time."

The announcer cites Babangida as having said that the number of casualties was being determined. Asked about whether or not his own life had been threatened, Babangida says that "the whole thing started at about 0200, (?0200 or 0300) in the morning. The Dodan barracks was under very heavy bombardment, and I was in it. So maybe you interpret that as part of the threat, that's what it is. I will also want to say that unfortunately I lost my ADC (aide-de-camp) in the process."

The announcer reports that General Babangida confirmed that his family was okay. The announcer continues on to say that "on the transition program the president stated that there was no going back, as stressed by the chairman, joint chiefs of staff, and chief of Army staff, Lieutenant-General Sani Abacha, in his broadcast announcing the crushing of the rebellion."

Babangida News Conference

*AB2204213490 Paris AFP in English 2120 GMT
22 Apr 90*

[Excerpts] Lagos, April 22 (AFP)—Nigeria's military head of state, Ibrahim Babangida said a coup bid by rebel officers had been foiled Sunday and that the situation was "under control". [passage omitted]

"Most of the rebel officers, mostly majors, lieutenants and second lieutenants, have been arrested and are under interrogation," he said, pledging that they "will have a quick trial". [passage omitted]

An unofficial source said there were "heavy casualties" by the time it was over, but in his brief meeting with reporters the head of state gave no indication of their extent. The presidential quarters showed signs of damage from the fighting. Parts of its roof had been torn away by mortar shells and the facade had been burst, sources close to the president said. He himself described it as having been "severely damaged under heavy bombardment".

The fighting, which started around 2 a.m. [0100 GMT], was unleashed by "rather few" rebel soldiers, according to General Babangida. Sources close to him said the rebels fought their way into the presidential barracks where the fighting was "very bloody", and occupied the nearby radio station building.

The president then moved to another military camp in central Lagos, the Bonny Camp, from where he directed the counter-offensive in the company of his immediate aides, the sources said. The counter-attack was, they said, "very quickly efficient". A presidential spokesman described the coup bid as "completely mad", saying that the rebels "had no chance of success, it was really a suicide operation."

Since Nigeria's independence in 1960, there have been six successful military coups and various attempts, including an earlier one against General Babangida, who has been in power for over four years.

In his press conference, General Babangida said the government remained firmly committed to its programme for a return to civilian rule. "We are set to hand over power to a democratically elected government in 1992," he said. [passage omitted]

University Imposes 'Indefinite Ban' on Demonstrations

AB2004194790 Paris AFP in French 1955 GMT
20 Apr 90

[Text] Lagos, April 20 (AFP)—Radio Lagos announced on Friday that authorities of the University of Lagos, one of the oldest and most important universities in the country, have imposed an indefinite ban on demonstrations as well as the celebration of holidays inside and outside the campus.

The ban was imposed to stem a wave of student protests over a 120 million dollar World Bank loan being negotiated by the government with the World Bank and which Nigerian students consider a poisoned gift which might entail cuts in staff and numbers of students in the universities, according to informed sources.

Following recent student demonstrations, Awolowo University in Ile-Ife (state of Oyo, southwest Nigeria), Bello University in Zaria (the north), and the Polytechnic College in Ibadan (140 km north of Lagos) were closed three weeks ago "until further notice."

The World Bank loan, which comes due in 35 years with a 10 year grace period, would be used to improve the academic infrastructure of most of Nigeria's 30 universities, according to an official source.

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